A few points on the Mac OS X issue (that I am also making to RSI).

1. Due to steadily improving price/performance ratios, I expect that
we will continue to move away from proprietary Unix solutions (SGI,
Sun, IBM, DEC ... I mean Compaq) to Linux and Mac OS. I was planning
to *convert Unix licenses to Mac licenses*.

2. I am now concerned that Linux, AIX, IRIX, etc. versions of IDL will
also disappear (with no warning), perhaps one at a time, and that we
will be left with only a Windows version. I would guess that AIX and
IRIX will be the first to go. If that seems unlikely to you, consider
RSI's public statements of Mac support. Their about face is so blatant
that I am not inclined to have confidence in future RSI statements of
direction. (We have no history with Windows here, and I expect that we
would switch tools before we would switch to Windows.)

3. At present I primarily use IDL remotely on Unix from my Mac via
X-Windows. Compared to building a full OS X product, it should be
easy to port the Linux version of IDL to OS X (which is based on
FreeBSD). We could then run it from the command line and use X Windows
on the Mac. That would be relatively painless for them and for us. I
would rather use my own editor anyway (who wouldn't?). If I have to
use the development environment, I could run it under X Windows.

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